

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.
Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging
1625 E. Shaw Ave. Suite #123, Fresno, CA. 93710
Gate Code: 2489

Agenda packet material is available via U.S. mail upon request.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54952.2, if special assistance is needed to attend an Advisory Council meeting, please contact the Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging at (559) 600-4405. Notification at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff with ensuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting.

AGENDA

I.	CALL TO ORDER: Michel Bishop, Chair		
II.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS		
	A.	Guest Introductions (Voluntary)	<i>Information</i>
III.	PUBLIC COMMENTS: Any member of the public may address the Advisory Council during any Advisory Council meeting at the appointed time shown on the agenda, on any topic within the jurisdiction of the Advisory Council. Individual presentations or topics shall be limited to five (5) minutes , except under special circumstances, as determined and announced by the Advisory Council Chair. Pursuant to the provisions of the Brown Act amendments, the Advisory Council will not take any action on presentations or topics until properly listed on a subsequent meeting agenda, except in case of an emergency.		
IV.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting of September 10, 2024		<i>Action</i>
V.	OLD BUSINESS		<i>Information</i>
	A.	Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Vouchers: 250 nutrition vouchers, valued at \$12,500, were successfully distributed to older adults for use at local farmers markets, including locations in Kaiser, Kerman, and Madera.	
	B.	Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program: On July 10th, Susan Bussean presented updated regulations on elder abuse in long-term care facilities to FMAAA staff.	
	C.	Listos California Regional Disaster Summit: Hillaree Bennett and Minerva Garcia participated in the Listos California Regional Disaster Summit, providing valuable insights on disaster preparedness.	
VI.	NEW BUSINESS		<i>Information</i>
	A.	In September FMAAA staff participated in various events and trainings, including Congregate Site Food Safety Training (Sarah S.), Elder Abuse and Fire Safety Training (Sarah S.), the City of Fresno Fall Community Festival and Blood Drive (Miles R.), and the Senior Resource Fair hosted by Assemblyman Arambula (Miles R., Diane X., and Darlene B.). Additionally, Hillaree B. led a full-staff meeting on Fire Safety, Heat Injury Prevention, and Workplace Violence.	
	B.	In October, FMAAA engaged in various community outreach and advocacy efforts. Miles R. attended the Local Advocates for Seniors meeting, presented at the LC	

		Hotchkiss Senior Living Facility, and represented FMAAA at the Sierra Senior Center Resource Fair. Jamie S. and Hillaree B. participated in a feedback session with a Lead Organization to strengthen support in Madera County. Sarah S. and Yecica E. attended the Better Business Bureau Senior Scam Presentation in Firebaugh, while Alejandro G. and Julian G. represented FMAAA at the Retired Employees of Fresno County Health and Wellness Fair. Additionally, FMAAA staff, including Miles R., Sarah C., Julian G., and Lorena G., hosted a table on Senior Day at the Big Fresno Fair.	
	C.	November 6 - Miles R. represented FMAAA at the monthly Local Advocates For Seniors meeting at the Spaghetti Factory.	
	D.	November 6 – Lyle and Mary Fester from A Plus In-Home Care gave a presentation to the FMAAA staff on the services that they provide.	
	E.	November 7 – Miles R. attended the Madera County Department of Public Health Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee	
	F.	November 8 – Miles R. attended Veteran Administration Caregiver Fair	
	G.	December 3 – Miles R. attended the Housing Authority of Madera Senior Resource Fair	
	H.	December 10 – Hillaree B. and Miles R. presented to the Fresno Kiwanis club	
	I.	January 9 – Miles R. attended a Meeting at Big Sandy Rancheria to present to the tribal elders about FMAAA resources.	
	J.	January 14 – Miles R. attended a Case Conference for the Poverello House and presented on FMAAA resources, specifically on housing resources.	
	K.	January 24 - Reedley Senior Center Health Fair	
VII.	REPORTS		
	A.	Advisory Council Chair Report	
		1. Advisory Council Membership Status: City of Fresno – Three Vacancies Fresno County – One Vacancy Madera County – Three Vacancies	<i>Information</i>
		2. Brief Announcements of Upcoming Events for Older Adults	<i>Information</i>
	B.	Committee Progress Reports from Committee Leaders	
		1. Elder Abuse Prevention Committee: <i>Chrissy Buckles (Leader), Raymond Lopez, Tonya Frost, Ren Ramshaw</i>	<i>Information</i>
		2. Services for Older Adults from Faith-Based Community Committee: <i>Tonya Frost (Leader), Michael Mendez, Jr., Anne Bishop, Michael Bishop, Raymond Lopez, Chrissy Buckles - List of Faith-Based Food Pantries and Resources for Older Adults</i>	<i>Information</i>
		3. Elder Homelessness: <i>Minerva Garcia (Leader), Ren Ramshaw, Sharon Diaz, Angela Stillwell</i>	<i>Information</i>
		4. Disaster Preparedness Committee: <i>Minerva Garcia (Leader), Chrissy Buckles, Verlaine Elinburg</i>	<i>Information</i>
	C.	Agency on Aging Governing Board Meeting Report (Staff)	<i>Information</i>
	D.	California Senior Legislature (CSL) Report (<i>CSL Senior Assembly Member Minerva Garcia</i>)	<i>Information</i>
	E.	Triple-A Council of California report: (<i>Assigned member-Tonya Frost</i>)	<i>Information</i>
VIII.	FRESNO-MADERA AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES		<i>Information</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you to Jan Clagg and Comfort Keepers for the donation of 100 quilts for FMAAA staff to distribute older adults in need this holiday season. • Welcome to the team new Home Delivered Meals Eligibility Worker Yesenia Gonsalez • Congratulations to Nutrition Intern Marissa Martinez on completing her internship with FMAAA. • Jamie S. and Hillaree B. are on the Madera County Local Aging and Disability Action Plan (LADAO) Advisory Council. They meet monthly to discuss the LADAO. • Clinical Manager Sarah Carl has established two new vendor contracts with Interim Healthcare of the Central Valley and A-Plus In Home Care to improve services for current MSSP and Linkages participants and enroll those on the waiting list. • New mileage forms and Name Plates 	
IX.	Adjournment	<i>Action</i>

Next Meetings:

Advisory Council

Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 1:30 p.m.

Governing Board

Thursday, January 16, 2025, 1:30 p.m.

Fig Garden Regional Library

3071 W Bullard Ave,

Fresno, CA 93711

Note: Changed to the 3rd Thursday of each month at 1:30pm

Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging
ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2024
Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging
1625 E. Shaw Ave. Suite #123 Fresno, 93710

- I. **Call to Order:**
 - a. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Michael Bishop at 1:35 pm as a quorum was established, with eight of thirteen members in attendance.
 - b. **Advisory Council Members Present:** Tonya Frost, Jan Clagg, Verlaine Elinburg, Minerva Garcia, Anne Bishop, Michael Mendez, Michael Bishop, and Mariel Ortiz
 - c. **Advisory Council Members Not Present:** Sharon Diaz, Raymond Lopez, Ren Ramshaw, Chrissy Buckles, and Angie Stillwell
 - d. **FMAAA Staff Present:** Hillaree Bennett and Miles Robinson
 - e. **Guests Present:** Nikki Gallagher (OakMont of Fresno), Joel Gurs (Adult Services Training Academy), Stefanie Diaz (River Vista BH, Kaiser), and Emma Lopez (ASL Interpreter from DHHSC)

- II. **Welcome and Introductions:**
 - a. Chair Michael Bishop welcomed all in attendance as well as all members, and guests shared their name, title, and organization represented.

- III. **Public Comment:** No Report

- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Chair Michael Bishop called for a motion to be made to approve the presented June 11, 2024 Advisory Council Minutes. Jan Clagg made the main motion and was seconded by Tonya Frost. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

- V. **Old Business:**
 - a. Hillaree Bennett provided a recap of the officer elections held during the previous meeting. The following officers were officially instated: Chair: Michael Bishop, First Vice Chair: Chrissy Buckles, and Second Vice Chair: Tonya Frost
 - b. Hillaree Bennett discussed how the Advisory Council schedule was approved for the 24-25 fiscal year. Miles Robinson mentioned that the schedule was emailed to the membership but was also located in the membership packets in their binders.

- VI. **ID Badges and Mileage Reimbursement:**
 - a. Minerva Garcia raised the need for council members to have ID badges and raised concerns about mileage reimbursement for those traveling long distances. Hillaree Bennet stated that the issue is pending approval. Miles Robinson will research and report back.
 - b. Miles Robinson asked that the Council members to please check to make sure their contact information and term expiration was correct on the membership

list that was passed around for FMAAA's records and for the possibility of ID badges being made.

VII. New Business:

a. Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Vouchers:

- i. Hillaree Bennett reported on the successful distribution of 250 senior nutrition vouchers at local farmers markets and from walk-ins from the California Department of Food and Agriculture. These totaled to \$12,500 that older adults were able to use at local farmers market locations including Kaiser Farmer's Market, Kerman, and the Neighborhood Farmers Market in Madera. (Walk-ins)

b. Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program:

- i. Hillaree Bennett mentioned that on July 10th, 2024 Susan Bussean presented new rules and regulations surrounding elder abuse in long-term care facilities to FMAAA staff.

c. Listos California Regional Disaster Summit:

- i. Hillaree Bennett gave an update from her recent participation in the Listos California Regional Disaster Summit, where Minerva Garcia was also a participant.

d. Local Outreach:

- i. Hillaree Bennett updated the Council on recent and upcoming outreach events such as the Local Advocate for Seniors meeting on September 4, 2024, a presentation to the Shaver Lake Lions' Club on September 5, 2024, the City of Fresno Community Fall Festival hosted by Council Member Chavez on September 14, 2024, the Senior Resource Fair at McLane High School hosted by Assemblyman Arambula on September 28, 2024 and Senior Day at the Big Fresno Fair on October 7, 2024.

VIII. Reports:

a. Advisory Council Chair Report:

i. Advisory Council Membership Status:

1. 13 Current Members
2. 8 Vacancies
3. 1 Fresno County, 3 Madera County, and 4 Fresno City

ii. Brief Announcements of Upcoming Events for Older Adults:

1. September 10th – 12th Madera County Listening Sessions
2. September 14th City of Fresno Community Fall Festival
3. September 20th Senior Circle Potluck at Northpointe Community Church – Topic: Wills and Trusts
4. September 25th Clovis Senior Center End of Summer BBQ Bash
5. September 27th Clovis Senior Center hosts the Clovis Lions Spaghetti Dinner
6. September 28th Senior Resource Fair

7. October 3rd Clovis Senior Center Crafts Fair
8. October 5th Ranchos Hills Senior Center Craft Fair
9. October 7th Senior Day at the Big Fresno Fair
10. October 12th Clovis Senior Center Annual Car Show

b. Elder Abuse Prevention Committee Report:

- i. Tonya Frost led a discussion about the lack of progress in the Elder Abuse Prevention Committee, including outdated training videos and the need to locate equipment. Miles Robinson was tasked with locating the equipment at FMAAA to film new training videos. Chrissy Buckles is the chair of this committee.

c. Services for Older Adults from Faith-Based Communities Committee Report:

- i. Tonya Frost gave an update on the creation of a list of Faith-Based programs that have various distribution services. A discussion was had about starting fresh and modifying and updating an existing list of faith-based organizations that provide services for older adults. Tonya Frost is the chair of this committee.

d. Elder Homelessness Committee Report:

- i. Minerva Garcia led a discussion about the challenges of elder homelessness, including the need for showers, food, and clothing, and the difficulty in finding shelters for unhoused men. Tonya Frost added to the discussion that 50% of the unhoused population in Fresno are over the age of 50. Minerva Garcia is the chair of this committee.
- ii. Hillaree Bennett reminded the Advisory Council that the intent of this committee is conducting research to provide resources to our Advisory Council monthly so that when someone reaches out the AC members can direct them to the Information and Assistance program at FMAAA and can provide those people with information in regard to elder homelessness. The point of the Advisory Council committee is not to solve elder homelessness but to advocate, provide information and resources.

e. Disaster Preparedness Committee Report:

- i. Minerva Garcia and Hillaree Bennett reported on the Disaster Preparedness Committee's activities, including attendance at an Access and Functional Needs Emergency Planning and Preparedness Committee meeting. They plan to attend another on November 9, 2024. Discussion regarding potential use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to create "Disaster Ready" bags for older adults. The conversation highlighted the limited resources of in-home support services, which serve a significant number of elderly clients. The discussion suggested seeking grants and funding to expand services, especially in disaster-prone areas. Minerva Garcia is the chair of this committee.

f. Agency on Aging Governing Board Meeting Report:

- i. Hillaree Bennet covered the cancelation of July and August meetings due to fiscal year closeouts and new contract preparations. An update on the

next Governing Board Meeting was promised for the following AC meeting.

- ii. The next Governing Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 1:30pm at the Fig Garden Regional Library. Advisory Council members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

g. California Senior Legislature (CSL) Report:

- i. CSL Senior Assembly Member Minerva Garcia discussed upcoming virtual training and the process of submitting proposals to legislators. The importance of engaging with legislators to support bills benefiting seniors and people with disabilities was emphasized. Minerva Garcia introduced the role of a California Senior Senator, responsible for representing seniors and writing proposals. The position is currently vacant, and attendees were encouraged to consider participation.

h. Triple-A Council of California Report:

- i. Tonya Frost's formal assignment to represent FMAAA was not accepted in time to attend the August 22, 2024 meeting. Miles Robinson was tasked to research and ensure that Tonya is assigned to represent FMAAA for the Triple-A Council of California.

IX. Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging Administrative Update:

- a. Hillaree Bennett gave an update and introduced Amanda Lucas as the new Finance Manger and Miles Robinson as the new Administrative Manager. Hillaree reported that the FMAAA leadership team is now fully staffed, which is expected to improve operations and culture.

b. Persons Served Report:

- i. During the 23-24 fiscal year FMAAA served 4085 people with Older Americans Act funding through title III. This does not include American Rescue Plan, Older Californians Act Modernization, and/or Older American Resilience and Recovery funding.
- ii. In Fresno and Madera Counties 81% of the 4085 reported living in poverty.
- iii. Served and delivered over 637,000 meals to home delivered meals participants which equates to 1,515 individuals that received those meals through Title III C-2 funding.
- iv. Delivered and served 58,637 meals at partner senior and community centers. There are no income requirements at these centers. Participants need only to be 60 years of age or older.
- v. The conversation addressed the intake process at community centers, the requirement for intake forms, and the voluntary contribution system. The importance of tracking data for state reporting was emphasized.

X. Adjournment:

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 2:47pm. The motion to adjourn was made by Tonya Frost and seconded by Anne Bishop. The motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Miles Robinson

Miles Robinson, Administrative Manager
Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging